

SALUTE TO COLLIN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE FOR AWARD WINNING NATIONAL NIGHT OUT FOR 2008

HON. SAM JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 20, 2008

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise to congratulate the Collin County Sheriff's Office for placing as a "National Award Winner" for its outstanding participation in the 25th annual National Night Out Crime, Drug, and Violence Prevention program for a 5th consecutive year. They placed 10th in the Nation for those with populations over 300,000. Over 10,000 communities participated in 2007.

I've spent time with these folks and they run a top-notch event dedicated to improving the quality of life in North Texas.

Thank you to every person in the Sheriff's Office who makes Collin County a great and safe place to live, work and play.

National Night Out aims to bring neighbors together with block parties, cookouts, visits from local police and sheriff departments, parades, exhibits, flashlight walks, contests and youth programs.

National Night Out heightens crime and drug prevention awareness, generates support for local anti-crime initiatives, and fosters neighborhood spirit and police-community partnerships. National Night Out sends a message to criminals to let them know that neighbors are united together to protect their communities and will fight back.

It was an honor to participate in National Night Out this year. The Collin County Sheriffs Office received a well-deserved award. Congratulations to everyone on that team.

God bless you and I salute you.

TRIBUTE TO MAJOR GENERAL ARTHUR M. BARTELL

HON. ROBIN HAYES

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 20, 2008

Mr. HAYES. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and pay tribute to Major General Arthur M. Bartell, United States Army, Deputy Commanding General of the XVIII Airborne Corps at Fort Bragg on the occasion of his promotion and new command assignment. Major General Bartell has served our great Nation for more than 31 years as a truly exceptional officer, and I am proud to call him my friend. I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Art on his well-deserved promotion to Major General and his new assignment as Commanding General, United States Army Cadet Command. Since his assignment as Deputy Commanding General of the XVIII Airborne Corps in June 2007, I have had the honor of working closely with him on behalf of our warfighters here at Fort Bragg. With the deployment of Corps Headquarters in January, he has been an outstanding leader as Commander of Task Force Bragg. Major General Bartell has also been a great ambassador in his outreach to the local community, and it is much appreciated. Most importantly, Art's con-

cern for his troops is evident, and he leads by example. Soldier, leader, scholar, gentleman—Major General Art Bartell truly personifies what a warrior should be.

His career accomplishments speak for themselves: Major General Arthur M. Bartell was commissioned as a Field Artillery officer in 1977 through ROTC at the University of Michigan. He began his career as a Forward Observer and Battery Fire Direction Officer with B Battery 2nd BN, 17th FA in the Republic of Korea. Duty with the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) followed. There he served as a Battery Executive Officer, Battalion Fire Support Officer, Battalion Fire Direction Officer and Battery Commander in the 2nd Bn, 320th FA. He next served at Fort Wainwright with the 172nd Light Infantry Brigade (Sep) as both Battalion Fire Support Officer and Battery Commander in the 1st Bn, 37th FA. Following a tour at the U.S. Army Military Personnel Center as the Field Artillery Personnel Systems Manager and attendance at the Army Command and General Staff College, Major General Bartell moved to Germany where he served as the Deputy G3 and G3 of VII Corps Artillery during Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm in the Persian Gulf. Returning to Germany, he served as the Battalion Executive Officer for the 4th Bn, 27th FA (MLRS) and as the Brigade S3 for the 41st FA Bde. Major General Bartell then moved to the 10th Mountain Division (LI) for duty as the Division Artillery Executive Officer and as the Battalion Commander of the 1st Bn, 7th FA (which reflagged to 3rd Bn, 6th FA during his tenure), both at Fort Drum and Port-au-Prince, Haiti during Operation Uphold Democracy. After completion of the U.S. Naval War College in Rhode Island, Art served as the Senior Fire Support Observer/Controller at the Joint Readiness Training Center, Fort Polk. He then returned to Fort Drum as the Commander of the 10th Mountain Division Artillery. After completing his command tour, he assumed duties as the Chief, Joint Interoperability Training Division, and then as Deputy J7/Deputy Commander, Joint Warfighting Center, U.S. Joint Forces Command in Virginia. Following that Joint assignment, he returned, once again, to the 10th Mountain Division (LI) to be the Chief of Staff and deployed to Afghanistan with the Division Command Group and Staff as part of Operation Enduring Freedom where he assumed duties as the Chief of Staff for Combined Joint Task Force 180. Upon re-deployment from Afghanistan, Major General Bartell served as Deputy Commanding General, Support, 10th Mountain Division (LI). Following that assignment he was sent to the Pentagon where he served on the Joint Staff as Vice Director for Operational Plans and Joint Force Development. Major General Bartell's awards and decorations include: the Defense Superior Service Medal (w/OLC), Legion of Merit (w/OLC), Bronze Star Medal (w/OLC), Meritorious Service Medal (w/7 OLC), Army Commendation Medal, Army Achievement Medal (w/OLC), Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, Southwest Asia Service Medal (w/3 BSS), Humanitarian Service Medal, Korean Defense Service Medal, Afghanistan Campaign Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Saudi Arabia Kuwait Liberation Medal, Kuwaiti Kuwait Liberation Medal, Parachutist Badge, Air Assault Badge, Joint Meritorious Unit Award (w/OLC), Meritorious Unit Award, and Joint Staff Identification Badge.

On behalf of Congress, the United States of America, and the greater Fort Bragg community, I express our appreciation for Art's tireless service, expertise, patriotism, and dedication to our soldiers. No doubt he will prove a great role model for the cadets under his new command, though it will be a great loss for Fort Bragg and the XVIII Airborne Corps. I want to personally thank Major General Bartell, his wife Karen, and his sons for their commitment, sacrifice, and the contributions they have made throughout his honorable and distinguished military career. I congratulate Art on completing an exceptional tenure here at Fort Bragg and wish him many blessings and much success as he begins this new endeavor.

HONORING VETERANS OF THE BATTLE OF THE BULGE

HON. CHARLES W. DENT

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 20, 2008

Mr. DENT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor American veterans who fought in the most pivotal conflict of World War II; the Battle of the Ardennes, more commonly referred to as the Battle of the Bulge. Specifically, I rise to pay tribute to the service and sacrifice of the many courageous veterans, family members and supporters of the Lehigh Valley Chapter of Veterans of the Battle of the Bulge, based in my district.

Next month marks the 64th anniversary of the start of the Battle of the Bulge. At 5:30 a.m. on December 16, 1944, over 250,000 German troops launched a massive offensive against Allied forces along an 85 mile stretch of Europe's Western Front in the Ardennes region of Belgium, Luxembourg and France. Initially, German forces were able to advance approximately 50 miles into terrain controlled by Allied armies, but by late January 1945, American units had reclaimed the lost territory and effectively crippled the German Army.

While the Battle of the Bulge was the largest and most pivotal land battle of World War II involving American soldiers, it also proved to be the bloodiest. When the conflict ended on January 25, 1945, roughly 75,000 American troops had lost their lives defending the vital Western Front and thousands more were left terribly injured. The sacrifices of these servicemen and all those who fought in the Battle of the Bulge were not made in vain, as the U.S. Army's expulsion of German forces from Ardennes damaged the German Army to the extent that its full defeat became inevitable.

Ten years ago, a group of motivated veterans in my district established the Lehigh Valley Chapter of Veterans of the Battle of the Bulge. Today, the membership of this group extends far beyond veterans of the Battle of the Bulge to include veterans of more recent conflicts like the Vietnam war, spouses, family members, friends and even local residents who share the group's interest in American military history. The Chapter meets the third Tuesday of every month at the Terrace Restaurant in Walnutport, Pennsylvania, to socialize, share memories and discuss upcoming community events. Typically, these meetings attract anywhere from 75 to 100 enthusiasts.

One of the primary functions of the organization is to educate local students and residents. Members routinely visit schools

throughout the Lehigh Valley to discuss the importance of the Battle of the Bulge and teach students about the great sacrifices made by thousands of American soldiers over time to preserve our freedom. The Chapter estimates its education program has reached over 50,000 students since its inception.

December 16, 2008, represents 64 years since the start of the famous Battle of the Bulge. On this date, members of the Lehigh Valley Chapter of Veterans of the Battle of the Bulge will gather at 5:30 a.m. in two locations in my district to recognize the anniversary of this historic event and remember the many Americans who lost their lives ensuring Allied victory in World War II.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in honoring the veterans of the Battle of the Bulge and thanking all members of the Armed Forces for their brave service to our country.

HONORING NEAL ROBERT
WINDHORST

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 20, 2008

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Neal Robert Windhorst of Kansas City, Missouri. Neal is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 1395, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Neal has been very active with his troop, participating in many Scout activities. Over the many years Neal has been involved with Scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Neal Robert Windhorst for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

HONORING THE MEMORY OF
JOSEPH HENRY BAKER, JR.

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 20, 2008

Mr. BONNER. Madam Speaker, the city of Mobile and the state of Alabama lost a dear friend this week, and I rise today to honor Joseph Henry Baker, Jr. and pay tribute to his memory.

Known affectionately as "Bobo," he was a native and lifelong resident of Mobile. Bobo graduated from Murphy High School and entered the U.S. Army at the height of World War II at the age of 17. He would ultimately retire from the U.S. Army Reserves with the rank of colonel.

As part of his military service, he attended both North Carolina State University and Oregon State University and earned his bachelor's degree in electrical engineering. Following the war, Bobo earned an accounting degree from the University of Alabama. He

was also named to the University of Alabama School of Commerce and Business Administration's All Time All Star Academic Team.

After finishing at the University of Alabama, Bobo began his career in the Mobile banking industry. During this time, he attended the National Trust School at Northwestern University, the New York State Trust School and Rutgers Stonier Graduate School of Banking.

In 1955, Bobo joined the auditing department of the First National Bank of Mobile, now AmSouth Bank. The following year he was promoted to assistant trust officer and then to trust officer in 1960. In 1965, Bobo was named assistant vice president. He was elected vice president in 1967, senior trust officer in 1969, senior vice president in 1974 and head of the trust department in 1975.

He was active in a number of professional banking organizations. He served as chairman of the Southern Trust Conference Planning Committee, president of the trust division of the Alabama Bankers Association, and member of the American Bankers Association.

Bobo was also active in a number of civic and community organizations. He was a former secretary and director of the Lion's Club of Mobile, former president of America's Junior Miss, former president of the Mobile Preschool for the Deaf, a founding member of both the Friendly Sons of St. Patrick and the Family Counseling Center, and a member of the Senior Bowl Committee, the M.W. Smith Foundation, Quarterback Club, Mobile Touch-down Club, Coastal Conservation Association, Alabama Wildlife Federation, Ducks Unlimited and the Mobile County Wildlife Association.

Bobo also gave much of his time to his beloved parish, St. Ignatius Catholic Church. He was a member of the Equestrian Society of the Holy Sepulchre, Legatus, the Serra Club of Mobile as well as Catholic Social Services. He has also served as treasurer and member of the board of directors of the McGill-Toolen Foundation.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in remembering a dedicated community leader and friend to many throughout south Alabama. Joseph Henry Baker, Jr. will be dearly missed by his family—his wife of 48 years, Mary; his children, Laura Blakely Cooper, Leigh Eleanor Givhan, Joseph Henry Baker III, and Mary Lucille Green; his 12 grandchildren, James Lucien Hinton III, Laura Blakely Hinton, Russell Baker Hinton, Mary Virginia Givhan, William Bowman Givhan, Jr., Eleanor Frances Givhan, Mary Deas Baker, Elizabeth Frances Baker, Charles Lansing Green, Jr., Mary Eleanor Green, Julia Baker Green, and Henry Harmon Green; his sister, Frances Baker Lauten; and his brother, William Costello Baker—as well as the countless friends he leaves behind.

Our thoughts and prayers are with them all during this difficult time.

A TRIBUTE TO MILDRED COUNCIL

HON. G. K. BUTTERFIELD

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 20, 2008

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and applaud The Honorable Mildred Council, Mayor Pro Tempore of Greenville, North Carolina. Known across the

state for her longtime community service, Mayor Pro Tempore Council has spent 20 years steadfastly representing her constituents. The National League of Cities recently honored Mrs. Council with its 2008 Women in Municipal Government Leadership Award on Friday, November 14, 2008. This award recognizes women for implementing civic programs in local government. Mrs. Council has devoted her life and career to social work and public service, including a focus on mitigating the effects of sickle cell syndrome on her communities. Her example and accomplishments should serve as a model for future women leaders.

Mrs. Mildred Council is a native of Bethel, North Carolina. She graduated from Shaw University with a bachelor's degree in sociology, and later earned a master's degree in social work from the University of Wisconsin. After first being elected to the Greenville City Council in 1987, she established Greenville's first Youth Council. She also cofounded the Women/Ladies of Distinction program, which mentors at-risk young female students in North Carolina schools. She has also served on 17 boards and commissions in her career including Sheppard Memorial Library Board and the Recreation and Parks Commission. She has been a 4-H leader, serving as a role model for many children in Pitt County.

Mayor Pro Tempore Council has been recognized throughout her career for her distinguished service. In 2006, she was awarded the Order of the Long Leaf Pine by North Carolina Governor Mike Easley. She was awarded the National Association of Black Social Workers 33rd Annual Conference Certificate of Appreciation for Significant Contribution to the African-American Community in 2007. She is also the recipient of the North Carolina Women in Municipal Government For Service As President Award. Further, she has received three awards from her religious community, including the Christian Awareness Organization Humanitarian Award.

Mayor Pro Tempore Council's commitment to her community is based in her strong faith and it permeates into all aspects of her life. She continues to work tirelessly to serve and assist the people with the greatest needs. With her help and support, there is now a Pitt County Habitat for Humanity office, located in the heart of Greenville. Her dedication to the community she faithfully serves truly makes her an exceptional leader and role model. She embodies the true spirit of a public servant by dedicating each day to improving the quality of life for every person living in her community.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to please join me in recognizing the efforts and accomplishments of Mildred Council.

RECOGNIZING NOVEMBER AS
NATIONAL ADOPTION MONTH

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 20, 2008

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Madam speaker, National Adoption Month is a time when Americans can come together to celebrate families grown by adoption. Individuals and families choose adoption for many reasons. Common to all adoptive families is that they offer loving,